

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, 17-54, and 57-65 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 20, 36, and 44 are independent claims. No claims have been amended or cancelled as a result of this response.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-2, 4-15, 17, 19-22, 26-34, 36-37, 39-43, 48, 50-54, 57, 59, 61, and 65 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tidwell, II in view of Linnett et al. Claims 63-64 have been rejected over Tidwell and Linnett and further in view of Batch et al., and claims 3, 18, 23-25, 35, 38, 44-47, 49, 58, 60, and 62 have been rejected over Tidwell, Linnett, and further in view of Sonnenreich. These rejections insofar as they pertain to the presently pending claims, are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Applicant argues that the Examiner failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness sufficient to maintaining rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). In the Office Action mailed March 25, 2003, the Examiner asserts "...it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill art at the time that the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Linnett into the method of Tidwell to store the input processes and create the output based upon the input. The modification would be obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would want to provide an efficient tool and allow third parties to extend and customize the features of an existing application program..."

As support for the above-mentioned motivation, the Examiner relies on column 2, lines 28-30 of Linnett which states "it is another object of the present invention to provide an interface

program that has expert knowledge relating to the performance of a specialized task.” However, Applicant respectfully asserts that this portion of Linnett does not contemplate a wizard builder. In fact, the concept of a wizard builder is not contemplated anywhere in the Linnett patent. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has failed to establish motivation for why one of ordinary skill in the art would apply the Linnett interface teachings to a wizard builder scenario, such as the wizard builder scenario set forth in Tidwell. Linnett does not even recognize the existence of a wizard builder, let alone suggest that the Linnett interface could be used for such a task. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation for combining Linnett with Tidwell, and the Examiner’s rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) must fail for at least this reason.

Applicant further respectfully submits that Tidwell makes no mention of the need for or desirability of an interface program, such as the interface program disclosed in Linnett. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Tidwell also fails to provide sufficient motivation for combination with Linnett. Accordingly, since Linnett does not provide motivation for combination with Tidwell and vice versa, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner’s rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is improper.

Applicant further respectfully submits that both references, even if combinable, fail to teach or suggest prompting both the input of process steps and associated selections, and using those to create a wizard, as set forth for example, in independent claim 1 of the present application.

For reasons previously stated, Applicant asserts that neither Batch nor Sonnenreich make up for the deficiencies discussed above. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-15, 17-54, and 57-65 are allowable for at least these reasons.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, reconsideration of withdrawal of all outstanding rejections and allowance of each of the claims of the present application is respectfully requested.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a reply to the outstanding Office Action and submit the required \$110.00 extension fee herewith.

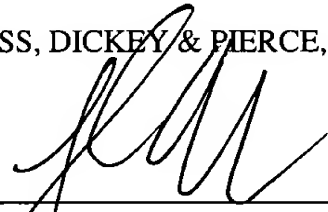
In the event that any matters remain at issue in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 in the Northern Virginia area, for the purpose of a telephonic interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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